

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 02598 150713Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07
CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
OES-06 DODE-00 SS-15 ARA-06 NEA-10 /116 W
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P 150641Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0216
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
US ERDA HQ GERMANTOWN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA PRIORITY
US ERDA HQ WASHINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 2598

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, PARM, IAEA, SF, AS
SUBJECT: FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA ON IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REF: (A) STATE 083685, (B) IAEA VIENNA 2755, (C) IAEA VIENNA 2438, (D) STATE 067651, (E) IAEA VIENNA 1987

1. AS REQUESTED IN PARAGRAPH 5 REFTEL A EMBASSY
DISCUSSED MATTERS RAISED IN REFTELS WITH R. A. WALKER,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DEFENSE POLICY BRANCH, DFA.

2. WALKER SAID QUESTION OF COORDINATED DEMARCHE TO
SOUTH AFRICA HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF MINUTE TO FOREIGN
MINISTER PEACOCK SHORTLY BEFORE HE LEFT COUNTRY. MINISTER
HAD GIVEN APPROVAL, BUT IN DOING SO HAD STRESSED
IMPORTANCE OF URGING SOUTH AFRICA TO ADHERE TO NPT, WITH
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ACCEPTANCE OF SAFEGUARDS TO BE CONSIDERED ONLY AS
FALL-BACK POSITION. MINISTER HAD ALSO PLACED
IMPORTANCE ON CONCEPT THAT APPROACH BE COORDINATED
AND NOT RPT NOT JOINT DEMARCHE. MINISTER ALSO APPROVED
FOLLOWING DFA PROPOSED CAVEATS BEFORE DEMARCHE TAKES
PLACE: (1) THAT US, UK AND CANADA AGREE TO UNDERTAKE
DEMARCHE; (2) THAT AUSTRALIA BE SATISFIED THAT

INITIATIVE WILL NOT BE MISCONSTRUED BY MODERATE BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES; AND (3) THAT IT BE MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR TO US, UK AND CANADA THAT AUSTRALIA ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO A REAL IMPROVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICAN POSITION AND NOT JUST A COSMETIC CHANGE.

3. WITH REGARD TO CAVEAT 2, WALKER SAID THAT AMBASSADOR FURLONGER HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED DISCUSS WITH HIS US, UK AND CANADIAN COLLEAGUES POSSIBILITY OF SOUNDING OUT SOME OF MORE MODERATE BLACK AFRICAN STATES BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH DEMARCHE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WALKER SAID THAT DFA HAD HAD SOME INDICATION THAT CERTAIN BLACK AFRICAN STATES REALIZED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN POSITION IN IAEA WAS DIFFERENT THAN IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. AFTER ALL, HE SAID, SOME COUNTRIES REALIZED THAT AN "OUTLAY" SOUTH AFRICA WITH THE BOMB WOULD HAVE DESTABILIZING AFFECT ON AFRICA.

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